

THE
AUSTRALIAN

U.F.O.

BULLETIN



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WELCOME

The Society welcomes reports of unusual phenomena. These are evaluated on their own merits and if requested are kept in the strictest confidence.

The Society exchanges information with similar Australian and overseas organisations, as well as scientists, and disseminates to the public information on local, interstate and overseas developments in its quarterly publication, the "Australian U.F.O. Bulletin", which is posted to all members.

All communications should be addressed per the return address shown on the rear of this bulletin.

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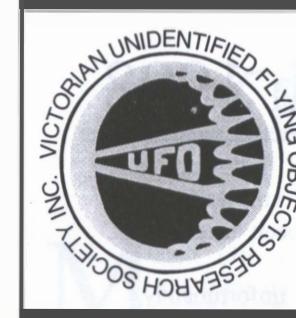
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MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

For details of your membership renewal, refer to the month/year coding on the address label of your latest bulletin. This indicates the last bulletin for which you are financial - we would appreciate your renewal by the date shown.



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For years we have, due to the fact that we are a 'nuts -and -bolts' investigative organisation, publicly steered clear of anything that remotely 'smacked' of contacteeism or abductions. During the last few years, we have been 'forced' to acknowledge the possibility of such experiences.

We have counselled many people with apparent success, but unfortunately, there have been some who were not genuine cases and which I believe were, if true, contacted by the wrong entities, as their personalities - or dispositions - have been adversely affected, or perhaps they may have had that defect initially to have been sought by the entities.

Many of the world's well reputed publications have addressed this aspect of UFOlogy simply because there is very little activity to write about and the few sightings reports available (out here anyway) are not sufficiently exciting to hold interest, and also, there appears to be more money in the abduction theory, whether truthful or otherwise.

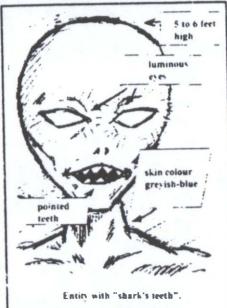
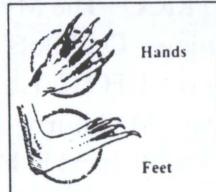
Abduction experiences and stories are not new, they have been around since the earliest days of UFO research.

We are continually receiving calls for help from people who have had unusual ET experiences and have been very successful in most cases. However, we do not divulge personal details and records of those whom we have recommended to professional people are also kept private.

There is a growing school of thought among UFO researchers that many of these ET's are of an evil temperament, that they work for the good of themselves and not for our benefit, as many would like to think.

Some of the 'night-time' experiences brought to our attention are absolutely horrifying and often affect whole families.

We have no argument against the existence of UFO's. They have been photographed, filmed, videoed and analysed, yet officially they still do not exist! It has been apparent on numerous occasions, that these questionable objects have been under intelligent control, but as to the intellectual integrity of the controllers, we can only speculate, but judging from the numerous reports from all over the world, their actions leave a great deal to be desired.



How could images such as these possibly instil a feeling of benevolence or kindness in their victims.

ON THE UFO TRAIL

Paul Norman ©

March 17th will mark an important milestone in VUFORS history when **Dr. Richard F. Haines** addresses members of our Society and those in the community who are interested in the subject of Unidentified Flying Objects.

During the past few years the subject has lost some credibility due to Hollywoodized "documentaries", uncritical investigations, false reporting, dream-time ufology and airy-fairy speculations.

There still remains up to **10% of unexplained** reports most of the best coming from airline and military pilots world-wide although some are coming from all walks of life. Most lights in the sky could be anything but many are identified as manmade.

Much rubbish is coming from news-stand magazines mixed with a few good cases therein. Recently I noticed a new magazine that I had not heard of before which had an article about Australian sightings. It gave the impression that Australia was being invaded from outer space. The magazine listed a few cases which we had some knowledge.

One report was of a "squadron" of bright orange lights flying over Melbourne. I checked these reports and found they were nothing more than helium filled balloons flying with the wind. (Same direction as given to me by the Dept. of Meteorology)

Another case was the goods train that partially lost power as an unknown object flew nearby. This case was reported in the VUFORS publication back in the mid 1980's.

While some of the details are true, the false addition was that the engine driver was so scared that he resigned his job. I was in touch with the driver. In fact, I interviewed him in his home. He was still doing the same job and expressing no fear.

The **Knowles encounter**, as explained in the magazine, had facts distorted apparently because the writer had never been to the site where the action took place. Some of the phraseology was identical to our own report. Several of the current news-stand magazines are adept at partaking of the fruit of other writers without credit.

If VUFORS receives sufficient support, we will continue to sponsor top international speakers with whom we are personally acquainted. The travel expense to Australia is much more from overseas locations than to any other place in the world.

Dr Haines specialises in sightings from aircraft crews both civil and military. He is the main researcher in this field. We are very fortunate to have him. Witnesses will report to him more so than anyone else. He has been compiling and researching reports from pilots over a period of twenty-five years.

We received a letter from him a few days ago which stated he was looking forward to visiting us and presenting what is shaping up into a **grand public paper on pilot sightings**. It will be an illustrated lecture using both an overhead projector and 35mm colour slides.

"LET US REMEMBER DRAGONS" A METEOROLOGICAL CONNECTION IN CROP CIRCLES

BY

ED SHERWOOD

"Once Man and Dragons walked high,
And the Earth was in harmony as one.
Dragons watched when time was born out fire and darkness.
Dragons live forever men do not.
There was a time when Dragons fire kindled the hearts of men,
Uplifted to greet the worlds morning.
Was to glimpse the mystery and those blessed by Dragons gaze.
Lost for all time their fear of the dark."

Quoted exactly from the mysterious 'Messages' received by researchers at the 'White Crow' Crop Circle Surveillance Operation, in June 1989.

TO 'SEE' A DRAGON

During the early 1980s a theory emerged offering a completely natural explanation for the origin of many crop circles. It is called the 'Plasma Vortices Theory' and its main proponent is Professor Terrence Meaden; a meteorologist.

According to Professor Meaden, a genuine crop circle is the effect of a "descending energetic vortex from the atmosphere, a vortex of air which is ionized to the point at which it is better regarded as a species of low-density cool plasma, producing a high-energy electromagnetic field."

The Plasma Vortices Theory describes how a rotating mass of electrically charged air (reported as a UFO) might form from certain weather conditions and topographical features in the landscape. (See 'References')

Many people, including myself, have experienced UFOs associated with crop circles. Of the 56 that I saw between 1992 and 1996 while living within three miles of East Field (one of England's most prodigious crop circle sites), 31 looked 'plasma-like': luminous, diffusely edged 'fire balls' that materialised in a variety of colours, though most often **amber**, or 'Golden', and/or **red**; and 29 of those occurred in the same weather conditions, characterized by calm stable air, high pressure, high humidity, and low to no wind speed.

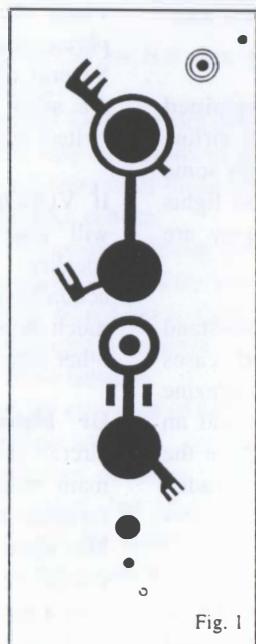


Fig. 1

Apart from its unique design and massive size (measured at 405 feet long), there was evidence of: 90 degree plant stem bending (in this case wheat) without a break or crease; 'Gap Seeking', a physical effect on 'downed' plant flow when crossing or approaching tractor lines; repeated electrical equipment malfunctioning when inside the pictogram, as experienced by National and International television crews within days of its forming; and 'Tangential Geometry' giving a precise alignment and spacing of design elements.

UPON THE 'LEY' OF THE LAND

Looking strangely 'Hieroglyphic', the East Field crop circle pictogram appeared during the pre-dawn hours of July 11th 1990 near the villages of Alton Priors and Alton Barnes; in Wiltshire, England. (Fig.1)

It was the longest and most complex formation to have appeared up to that time, the first to involve 'claw-like' and 'foot-like' design features and to include a double 'dumb-bell'. It was also the first 'Crop Circle' to manifest in East Field; belonging to farmer and resident of Alton Barnes, Tim Carson.

THE DRAGON'S FORECAST:

A CROP CIRCLE "PICTOGRAM" DEPICTING INTERNATIONAL METEOROLOGICAL SYMBOLS AND EAST FIELD WEATHER CONDITIONS FOR JULY 10/11 1990

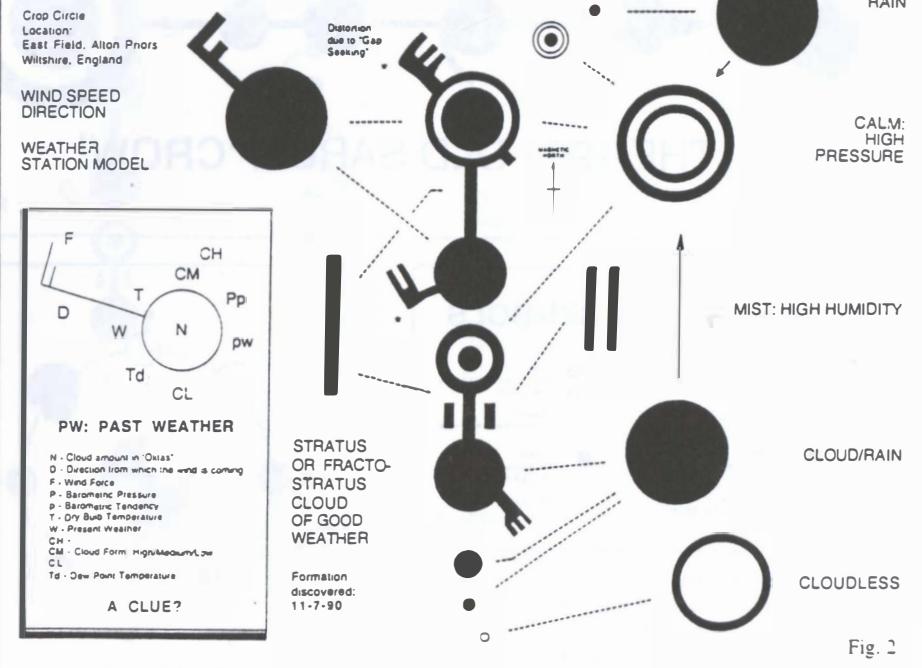


Fig. 2

DRAGONS PLAY

Naturally curious about the symbols and their possible meaning, I tried to 'read' them soon after the formation appeared. Nine months later a spark of inspiration lead to a startling discovery:

The pictogram symbolised a **forecast** of the prevailing weather over East Field, before and after the crop circle event. This was represented by the double dumb-bell, and International Meteorological Symbols depicting the very '**ideal**' plasma forming weather conditions that occurred during the 10th and 11th of July 1990. The formation confirmed and challenged the role of meteorology in crop circle physics. (Fig.2)

To be sure, I checked the symbols and orientation of the pictogram against National weather forecasts published

in the 'Guardian' newspaper, and hourly print outs from the 'Met' station at Lynham, approximately 11 miles North/North East of East Field. The results of this inquiry completely verified its 'Meteorological Message', and that was not all. If viewed metaphorically, and in an ancient cultural context (i.e.: Chinese, Japanese, Egyptian, and Greek), the meteorological symbols soon took on other meanings.

WHERE THERE IS WIND AND WATER

Water, important in meteorology, has long been recognized as an element of the crop circle phenomenon, and perhaps not surprisingly, can be 'seen' in the design of some notable formations. (Fig. 3)

The symbol used by meteorologists to represent **wind force** and direction is known as a '**Wind Feather**'.

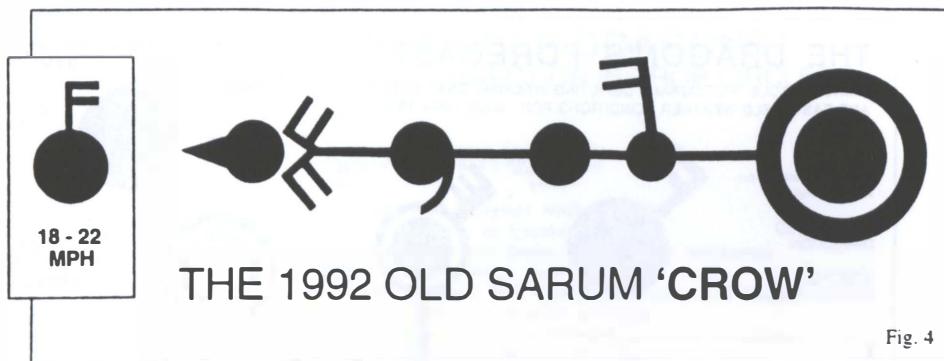
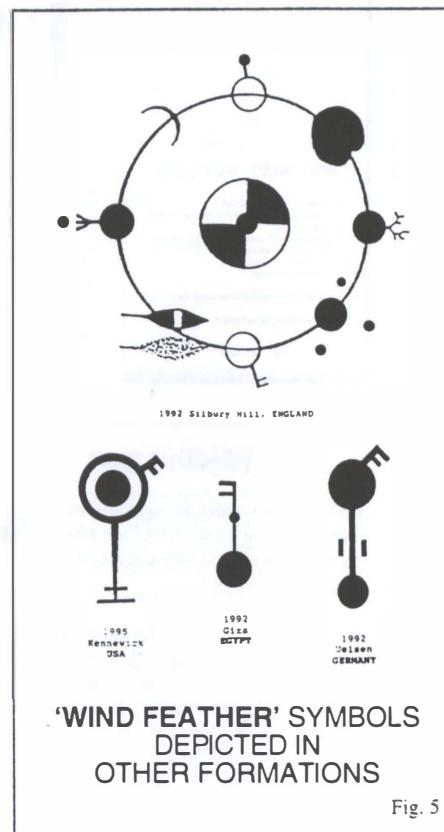
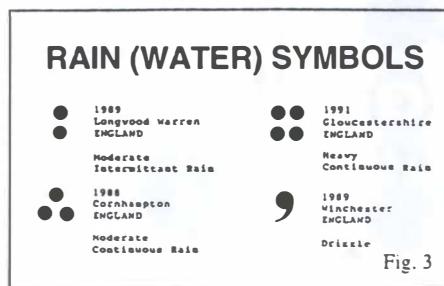


Fig. 4



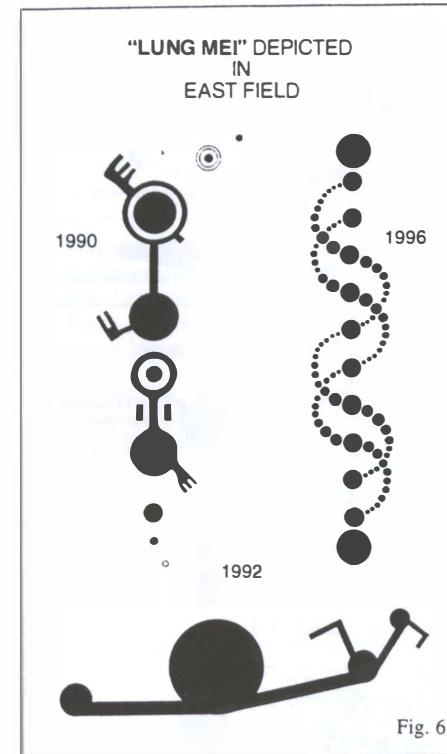
and know all.

(Fig.4) As a symbol it is reflected in many formations, and has helped in reading them. A perfect example was the pictogram that formed at the Neolithic site of Old Sarum in 1992, that incorporated wind feather symbols to create a pair of metaphorical 'wings' and a 'tail' to what I suspect to be a symbolized 'Crow' or 'Raven'. (Fig.4)

With its 'head' and 'beak' pointing directly at Old Sarum, its central axis reflects an alignment between that site and Stonehenge, represented by the ringed circle.

Old Sarum and Stonehenge are exactly six miles apart. 'As the crow flies', when measured from the center of each site. The pictogram shows six circle areas of what was flattened crop.

Throughout the ancient world the Raven and Crow were thought to be the confidant and messenger of the 'Gods', possessing the power of prophecy. To the Greeks and Romans the Crow was a 'weather prophet'. In the British Isles the Raven was considered to be an oracle. In Ireland the phrase 'a ravens knowledge' means to see



Considering this, could the pictogram be saying: "This is a metaphorical message from the 'Source' (also represented by the ringed circle), once revered at an ancient sacred sites, from which and to which the 'messenger' of the Gods flies?" (i.e.: along 'Leylines') Hmm.

Incredibly, the windy Giza Plateau also received a crop circle formation in 1992, incorporating a wind feather in its design. (Fig.5)

LOOK TO THE EAST

Exploring 'Eastern Traditions' in folklore, legends, earth sciences, and religion provides many clues to understanding the crop circle phenomenon, especially in terms of its implied physics and metaphysics.

In China where the ancient science of 'Feng -Shui' (translated: 'Wind' and 'Water'), or 'Geomancy' has

been practiced for over 2000 years, the Chinese have long held the idea that the Earth, like the human body, is covered by a matrix of invisible lines of subtle magnetic force, referred to as 'Lung Mei' translated 'Dragon Paths'.

In England Lung Mei correspond to 'Leylines', and references to them have appeared in the design, geometry, orientation and location of many formations, including several pictograms from East Field. (Fig.6)

Taking each in turn:

The major axis of the 1990 pictogram was aligned to **Magnetic North**, the primary 'Geomantic' compass bearing.

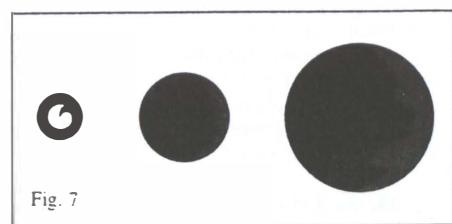
It was also crossed by several Lung Mei, and with its wind feathers 'doubling' as symbolic legs, feet, and claws, the pictogram even takes on the appearance of a symbolised Dragon, traversing its path across the land.

In 1992 the symbol of a 'Snail' formed. I later learned that scientists have found that snails perceive extremely weak magnetic fields (Lung Mei) by which they navigate. Also, in old England a snail was called a 'Dodman', which could mean: 'an ancient surveyor of the landscape, a term given to ancient 'Geomancers'.

And in 1996 a spectacular formation 'mirrored', amongst other things: Lung Mei, by symbolizing and combining the path of a 'Serpent', historically interchangeable with Dragon, or two Serpents, like a Caduceus, and the path of two snails. As John Haddington stated in 1992 (See 'References', including Dodman), Latin for snail is 'Helix Nemoralis', or in the case of two snails: a 'Double Helix'!

DRAGONS SONG

There have been reports of inaudible and audible sounds emanating from the center of some crop circles, or from



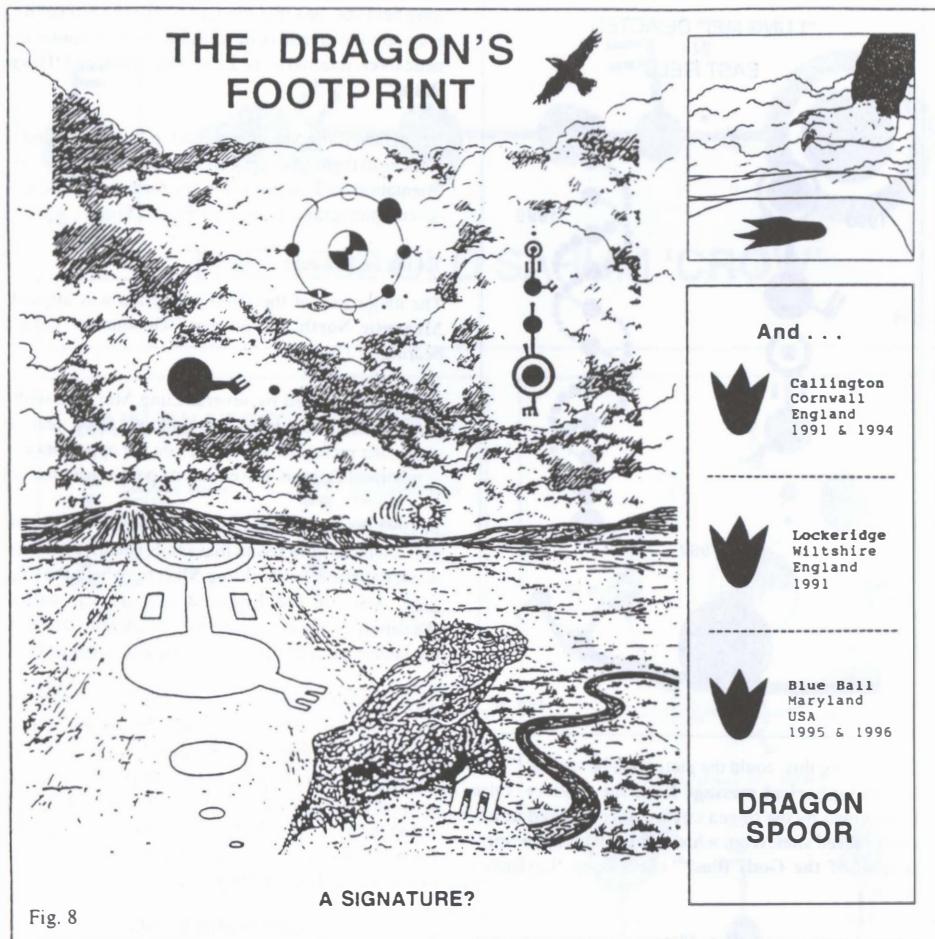


Fig. 8

their vicinity.

On July 29th 1990, at approximately 12pm, at a formation directly opposite the East Field pictogram, a pulsing whining sound issued from the center of the largest of three circles. (Fig.7) Although clearly recorded on audio tape at the time as a distinct sound, it was otherwise inaudible to the three witnesses present: Rita Gould, Vince Palmer, and myself.

Another sound, this time audible, is known as the 'Trilling Sound', or "electronic sparrow", as Colin Andrews

once aptly called it. Measured at 5.2KH, it is a sound that seems 'localized', from a distance, and 'all encompassing' when very close. I have experienced it three times to date.

On a 'resonant' note a striking correlation exists in an old Chinese tale: 'Yui Yi & The Dragon King', as it describes Dragons in human form in the process of changing back to Dragons:

"All around them, the sudden chattering of the courtiers rose like the twittering and trilling of thousands of

birds, like the liquid songs of flutes or the chiming of bells. In the pearly light, the courtiers shapes seemed to dissolve and form again and again, as if the atoms of creation were dancing."

SIGNATURES ON THE LAND

Dragons feet have appeared in a number of impressive formations since East Field, 1990. They include: **Milk Hill** (Left), on the following night; **East Kennett** (Right), just over two weeks later, and **Silbury Hill** (Center), on August 18th 1992. (Fig.8)

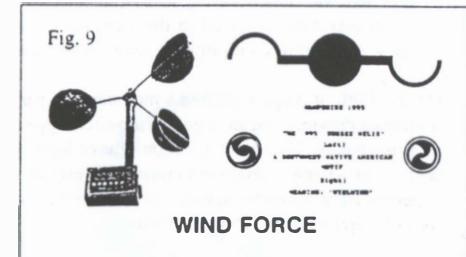
In each case the 'foot' was symbolised with **three** 'claws', which could be a reference to 'Tatsu', a Dragon in Japanese folklore identified by three claws (unlike Chinese Dragons that have either four or five) on each foot. This Dragon was thought to be capable of changing form and size at will, even to the point of invisibility. Interestingly, Japan was the only country in the Orient to report crop circles in 1990, the same year that Dragons feet first entered crop circle design.

Another twist to this very 'Holographic' phenomenon are 'Dragons footprints', a term given to areas of irregularly flattened crop, resembling 'elemental' footprints (Fig.8, 'Dragons Spoor'), that sometimes precede or accompany a crop circle event, and display biophysical anomalies characteristic of non manmade formations. (See 'References')

A SIGN FROM THE GODS

'Dragon Lane' is the road sign name for a narrow village road built on a prominent Leyline leading to both an ancient sacred site called 'Swanborough Tump' and a field a little way beyond that known for its crop circles and references to Lung Mei. (Fig.5) Yes, we return to East Field and another 'Sign' of the Dragon.

To the ancient Chinese, and Japanese, Dragons were '**weather lords**', masters of the wind with control over water. Their flight was the wind; their breath, the mists and rain. Thought to be spirits that spiraled the sky and blew the clouds along, resting in regions beyond the bounds of air, they were ordinarily seen as the ever changing patterns of the weather. As great clouds, storms, wind squalls and whirlwinds, they left their mark on land, flattening crops and causing rivers to flood. (Fig.9)



Eastern Dragons were said to be as fluid as the elements, and **water** was their place of residence. I learned from Gerald Hawkins last year that 'Aiton' as in Alton Barnes and Alton Priors is an old English word meaning "source of a river", and that the source of the Avon (a river that flows within a mile of Stonehenge) begins at the foot of East Field.

Many crop circle formations have appeared in close proximity to water, either or both above and below ground sources. There is even evidence of a phenomenon very similar to crop circles having occurred in the Sea! (See 'References') Also, water has been a reoccurring theme reflected in crop circle design symbolism since 1988. Other examples include: Stonehenge 1997; Liddington Castle 1996; Stockbridge Down 1995; Oliver's Castle 1994; Cherhill 1993; Silbury Hill 1992; Firs Farm 1991 and East Field 1990. Like a stream of clear consciousness **WATER** (amongst other things) is reflected again and again, as a key element of the crop circle making process. Another sign?

Chinese folklore says "If Dragon fire comes into contact with wetness it **flames**, and if it meets water it **burns**". In the damp Wiltshire valley known as the 'Vale of Pewsey' anomalous light forms are not uncommon. Of those that I have seen, from distances of several miles to a few hundred feet away, more than half were best described as: 'Plasma Balls'; 'Plasma Vortices'; 'Earthlights'; 'Amber Gamblers'; 'Fire Balls'; and 'Dragons Fire'. (See 'References')

Dr. W.C. Levengood, a noted biophysicist and expert in crop circle plant analysis, had this to say about plants sampled from the 1996 Laguna Canyon crop circle formation: "As we have seen in the past, this degree of change in the cell wall pit diameters indicates the plants were exposed to a very rapid, high heat input." Signs of **internal heating** have appeared in other ways too, such

as stem node swelling, splitting, and expulsion cavities. These effects have occurred in the stem node areas where water is most concentrated. (See 'References')

On the 8/9th of August 1986 in a mountainous part of Yamagata Province, Japan, a single crop circle appeared in a rice paddy. That night a 'bright orange light' was seen in the vicinity, severe television interference was experienced at a nearby house, and approximately 20 tons of water vanished from the field.

At another formation that appeared on the 18th of August 1992 near Silbury Hill, in Wiltshire, a metal water trough became an incorporated design feature in one of the most beautiful pictograms to grace the English countryside to date. Clearly underscoring the importance of water the trough had also been partly emptied by the event. (Fig.5/8)

Apart from the Silbury Hill formation referencing water it also consisted of nine different design symbols: eight joined by a narrow ring and one in the center. In the monumental Chinese Medical treatises the 'Pan Ts'ao Kang Mu', compiled at the end of the 16th century, and the 'Nine Dragon Scroll' of mid-13th century, there were said to be Nine Dragons revered in China.

One of the Nine Dragons: 'The Golden Dragon' or 'Cosmic Dragon' was given greater importance than his fellow kinsfolk. Said to be the colour of the Sun, like an Amber Gambler I suspect, this Dragon was described as an elusive, enigmatic, august and solitary creature that disdained display. Scholars wrote: "He can be large or small, short or long, obscure or manifest, alive or dead. The King cannot drain his pool or catch him (like we cannot 'catch' the genuine 'Circlemakers'). His intelligence and virtue are unfathomable. He does not go in company or live in herds. He waits for the wind and rain and deports himself in the azure air. He wanders in the wilds among the heavens. He comes and goes, and at the proper season (Summer!), if there is perfection, he comes forth, if not, he remains unseen". (See 'References')

The Golden Dragon also appears in ancient Egypt. The first religion of Egypt was based on 'Nine Creation Gods', and like the Nine Dragons of China, one was deified more than any other. Named 'Atum', he represented 'The Emissary' of the Nine Gods; the 'Messenger of Messengers' who in one act of divine 'communi-

cation' was said to have given birth to the fundamental forces of the Universe, symbolised by the Nine Gods. He is depicted in sculpture as **The Great Sphinx** at Giza. Did we not receive a sign at Giza in 1992 in the form of a crop circle pictogram? (Fig.5)

Atum, The Golden Dragon, has also been known by other names including: 'Re-Harakhti' ('Re' pronounced ray) was the Egyptian Sun-god. Herenkar, Harmarkos, Tehuti, and the name for the 'Spokesman' of the 'Council of Nine' in more recent times: **Tom**. (See 'References'*)

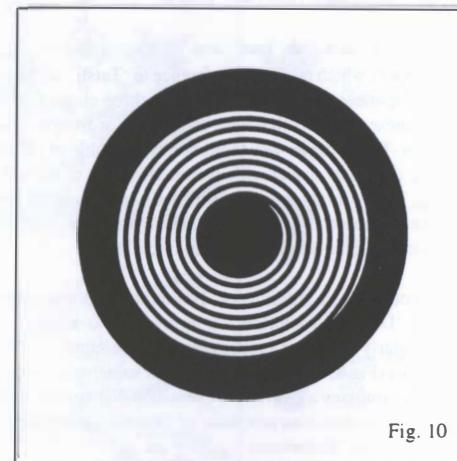
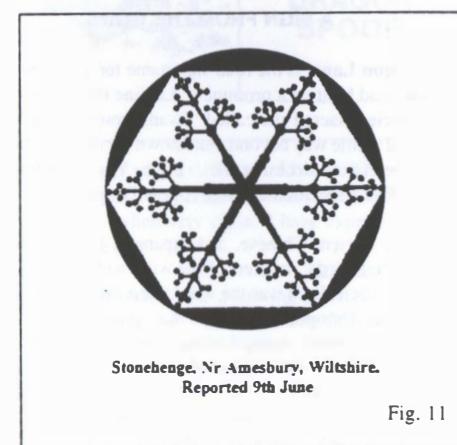


Fig. 10



Stonehenge, Nr Amesbury, Wiltshire.
Reported 9th June

Fig. 11

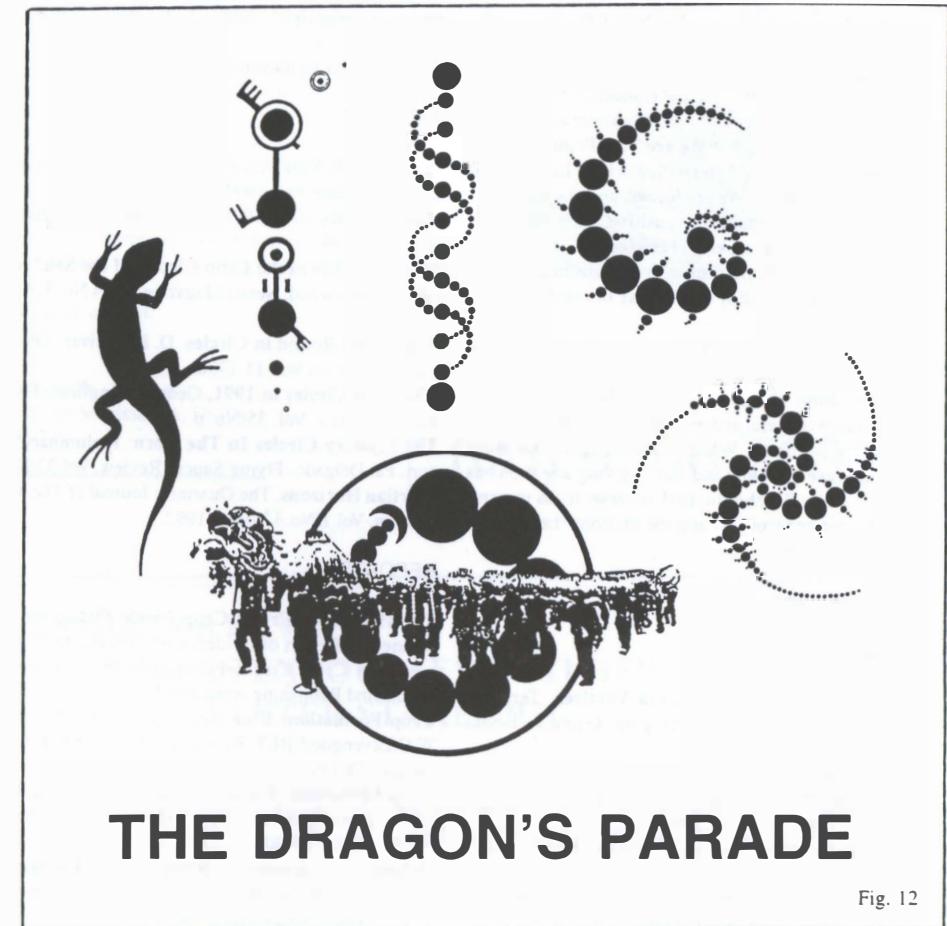


Fig. 12

Discovered by Vince Palmer on the 30th of July, and in keeping with one of the central concerns of Tom, and 'The Nine', a 30 foot circle appeared in a wheat field at a village called **Palestine** in 1990, situated only a few miles from Stonehenge. In 1995, the largest and finest to date nine ringed spiral design formed in young barley, its location near Beckhampton, in Wiltshire, closely corresponding to the 'Earth Analogue Site' of the 'Face on Mars', also known as the 'Martian Sphinx'. (See 'References') With its location referencing Atum, and its design, The Council of Nine, the knoll Down formation was simplicity itself. (Fig.10) From the 'Dragons

Forecast' of 1990 to the 'GaiaMind' formation of 1997 (See 'References'): The Word Is Nine, Fig.11) are many non man-made pictograms reflecting 'Nine' and 'Dragons' in their design symbolism. (Fig.11)

LIKE A HOLOGRAM

Formations like the East Field pictogram of 1990 are, in my view, created from the **Psychokinetic Energy** of our **Collective Mind** (Collective Consciousness), in conjunction with natural forces and processes of the Earth and Cosmos. What I understand to be the 'Infi-

nite Intelligence' (symbolised by Nine Dragons, or Nine Gods) does not exist outside CREATION, but lives and manifests through us, and every living thing, everywhere, always. In 1952, via the Collective Mind of Dr Vinod (See 'References'**) the 'Spokesman' had this to say about their reality: "We are Nine Principles and Forces, Personalities if you will, working in complete mutual implication. We are forces, and the nature of our work is to accentuate the positive, the evolutionary, and the teleological aspects of existence." The Spokesman continued: "To be simple, we accentuate certain directions as will fulfill the destiny of creation."

As we approach a New Millennium the 'Signs' of a world in transition are before us, like a 'Course in Miracles' from humanity's 'Higher Self', they reflect the language of literal and metaphorical symbolism, and a message for us all: While every thought and every intension, every feeling and act of giving attention has an 'effect' in a Psychokinetic Universe, let us remember the power of prayer and meditation. "Let Us Remember Dragons".

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Crop Circle Pattern Catalogue. Vol 3/4 1995. Colin Andrews. Circles Phenomenon Research International.

DIAGRAM CREDITS:

Fig. 5 Silbury Hill Pictogram 1992. John Martineau.

Fig. 6 'Double Helix' 1996. Peter Sorensen.

Fig. 8 Milk Hill & East Kennett Pictogram 1990. Wolfgang Schindler.

Fig. 10 'Nine Ringed Spiral' 1995. Peter Sorensen.

Fig. 11 Stonehenge 1997. Peter Sorensen.

Fig. 12 'Double Helix', 'Julia Set' & Windmill Hill Pictogram 1996. Peter Sorensen.

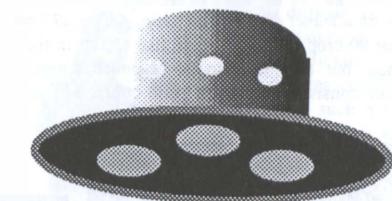
Diagram Layouts. Illustrations and remaining Silhouette Drawings by Ed Sherwood.

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FLYING SAUCER REVIEW

SOLDIERS ENCOUNTER ENTITIES IN ULSTER STAKE-OUT.

On the Internet on July 20, 1997 there was an unconfirmed CNI News item that, according to the British newspaper *The People* (July 13), eight British soldiers who were lying in ambush one night in South Armagh four years ago, hoping to catch some IRA gunmen, had a brief encounter "with three or four small grey figures in human form". The two parties stared at each other for a minute or so. Then the small entities vanished, and almost immediately the soldiers "saw a brief flash of light in the sky".

The soldiers were so unnerved that they took

the very rare decision to abandon the stake-out. Their commander was furious, and their comrades in the elite SAS force derided them or suggested that they were "on drugs".

Four years later the case has been revealed to an Ulster UFO study group by a former Intelligence Officer of the British Army.

Belfast-based UFO investigator Hugh O'Brien said: "We are trying to interview the soldiers, even though some of them may be too embarrassed to come forward". ■

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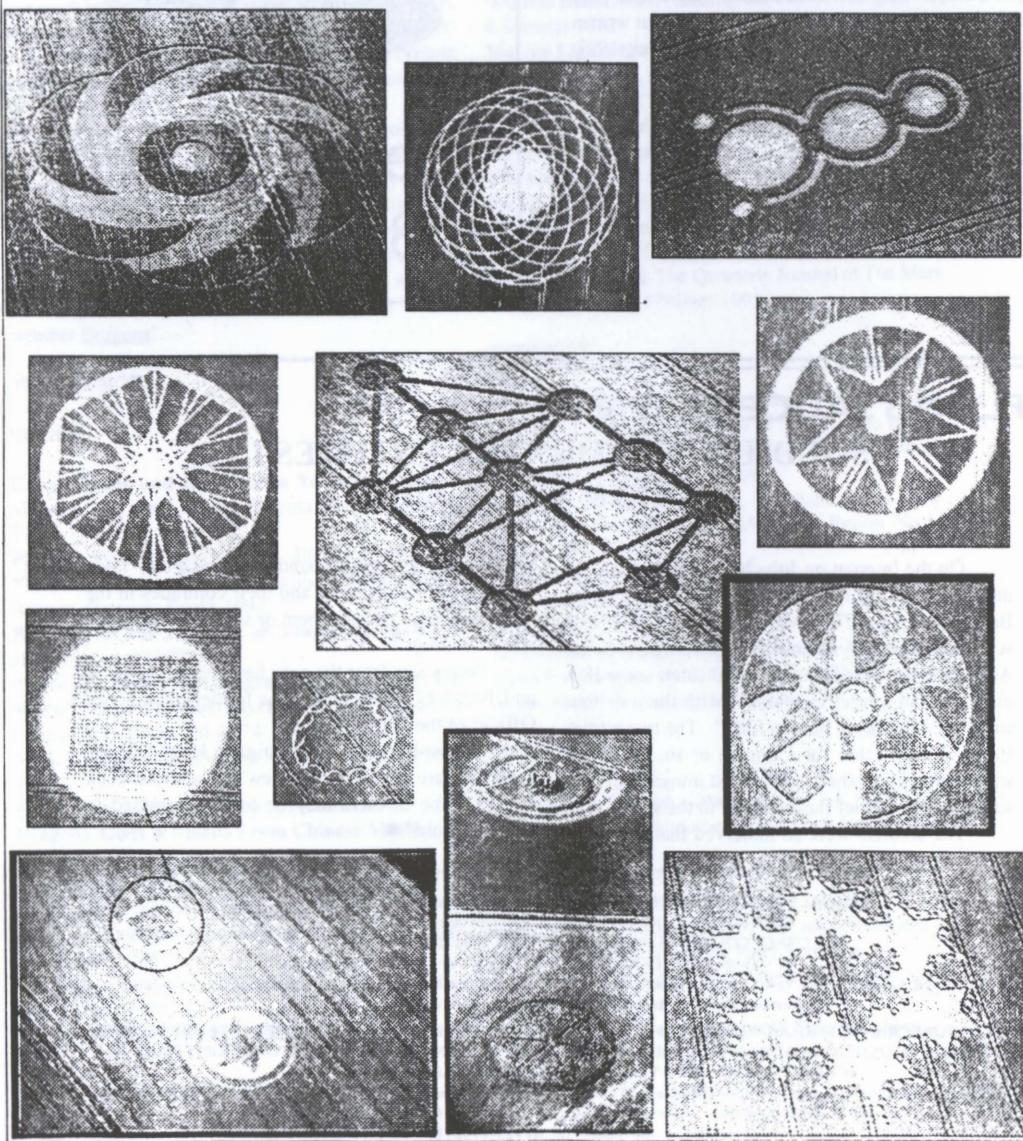
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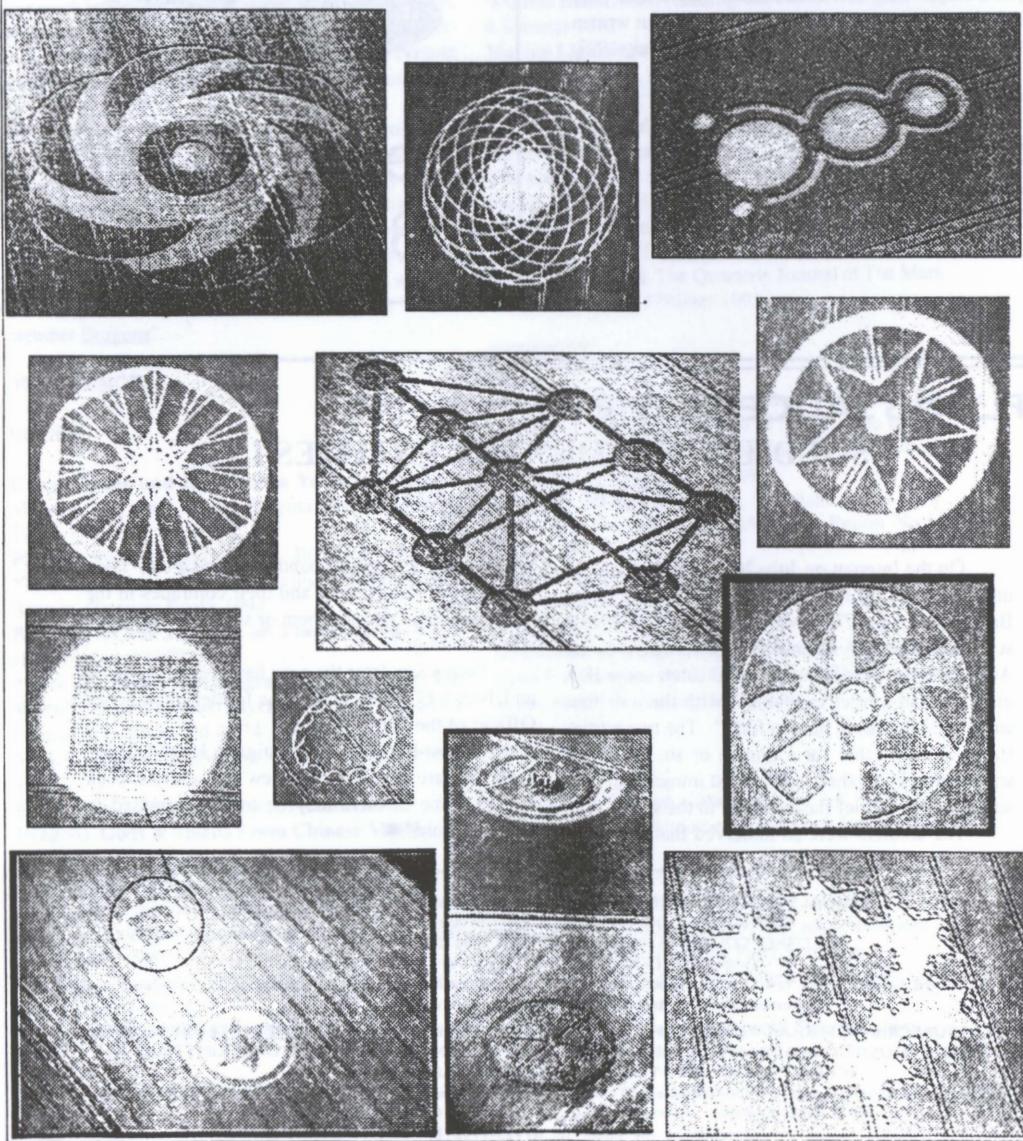
Crop Circle Gallery - 1997

Real or hoaxes? We don't know, but we're always impressed with the beauty and geometric complexity of English crop circles. Here are some from the 1997 crop, pulled off the web. To see them in full color, visit http://www.nhultranel.com/~love/crop_circles_uk.html. Up to 80 or 90 crop circles per year also appear in the US and Canada, but they tend to be much simpler in construction, consisting mostly of solid circles and simple rings.



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UFOCUS



Fall 1997

The Newsletter of The Institute for UFO Research

Vol. 1, No. 4

Report from the 18th Annual Rocky Mountain UFO Conference

by Shirley Parrish

The 18th Rocky Mountain UFO Conference on the campus of the University of Wyoming in Laramie began on June 28, 1997, and was one of our best. We regret that attendance was lower than usual, due to an unexpected "glitch" encountered in getting information to all who would otherwise have attended. Steps have been taken to insure that this problem is not encountered in the future, so everyone who wishes to attend future conferences will receive notice in plenty of time to make their plans.

Preceding the conference, R. Leo Sprinkle, Ph.D., and Marilyn J. Sprinkle scheduled workshops by appointment on June 26 and 27. Leo offered both investigators and experiencers who wished to learn about possible UFO experiences the opportunity to explore the limitations and applications of hypnotic procedures. Marilyn's workshops consisted of three sessions in which participants were given suggestions for imaging and exploring the "inner world," including possible past and future lives that may be directly involved with the purpose of the present life.

On Thursday evening, June 28, Ted Loman presented his videos of the Phoenix Lights. This impressive film made it



Ted Loman

difficult to believe the explanation offered by "officials" that military flares could be responsible for such a large light display. How would it be possible for "flares" to be dropped from a great altitude (which no one saw occur), then halt their downward motion, then stop, all at the same low altitude, before flying around the night skies over the large city of Phoenix, Arizona in perfect formation? Since many views of the lights were taken from numerous locations around the city in order to show the entire display, it seems possible that "mass hallucination" may indeed have been at work here, although not by the intended targets (viewers) of this "explanation."



Michael Lindemann

Michael Lindemann spoke in his lecture, "Closing the Gap between UFOlogy and Science," about the narrowing gap between UFOlogy and mainstream space science. Despite the frantic efforts of some governmental agencies to hide what they know of UFO interaction with Earth, a subtle revolution is taking place at NASA and among many physicists, astronomers and space scientists to prepare the way for public acceptance of extraterrestrial life in the universe. Mars has provided mounting evidence of ancient life on that planet. The discovery of planets around other worlds continues to grow. More and more resources are being directed to finding intelligent signals from space. Now, it has become politically correct to assume that "We are not alone." We haven't yet found them, but quite probably, they have found us, according to Lindemann. New advances in physics suggest that "faster than light" travel may be possible, and if so, the prospect of interstellar visitation becomes much more plausible.

VISIT IUR'S WEB PAGE

The IUR has had its own site up and running on the World Wide Web since June '97. Anyone with Internet access can now visit us at: <http://www.frii.com/~iufor/>

So far, we have info on the recent UFO conference (scheduled for post-conference updating Real Soon Now), quite a number of previous UFOCUS articles, a membership form, a news page, and a nice long list of links to other UFO sites on the web. We have saved some space for future additions: UFO resource materials and other info. Along with the site, we have an e-mail address: iufor@frii.com

Wiping theories off Mars' face

NEXT year a long debate over the significance of a mysterious face-shaped feature on Mars will be settled.

NASA's Global Surveyor spacecraft, orbiting the red planet, will focus on the Cydonia region, which found renown in the 1970s as the site of a face which some said proved there was once intelligent life on the planet.

On July 25, 1976, the Viking probe produced fuzzy images which many believed showed a gigantic human face, a pyramid and other structures that were "proof" of an ancient extra-terrestrial civilisation.

Some said the face was part of an immense tomb, sharing features of Egyptian death masks on Earth and that further evidence had been covered up by NASA and the military as part of a conspiracy.

Mathematical relationships between the face's features were also said to prove they could not have evolved naturally through erosion.

Some of the theories about the face were extensions of the arguments put forward in Erich von Daniken's best seller, *Chari-*

Astronomers believe pictures to be taken by a NASA spacecraft orbiting Mars will solve one of the red planet's most puzzling mysteries. JOHN BEVERIDGE reports from Los Angeles

ots of the Gods, which claimed ancient astronauts had visited Earth and left patterns on landing strips, such as those carved into the ground on the Nazca Plateau in the Andes Mountains.

Many scientists derided those theories, saying the features on Earth and Mars were part of a natural landscape or an optical illusion.

But in recent years the Cydonia region has come under renewed study by some astronomers who think the answer to the riddle of the face may lie somewhere in between.

Astronomer Dr Tom Van Flandern, who heads the Meta Research organisation which investigates topics that conflict with mainstream astronomy theories, said he had analysed data from previous studies and discovered Mars' north and south poles were once aligned differently.

He said a meteor impact or some other cataclysmic event had shifted the poles millions of years ago.

"It was a great shock to me to discover that the Cydonia area was right on the old Martian equator," Dr Van Flandern said.

He said further research showed the face was perpendicular to the old equator, with the bridge of the nose aligned almost exactly north to south.

"This has only a one per cent probability of happening by chance," Dr Van Flandern said.

"The weight of existing evidence appears to have shifted in favor of an artificial origin of the Cydonia complex."

Dr Van Flandern said the face would have been visible from great distances.

Mars Global Surveyor Orbiter Camera chief investigator Dr Michael C. Malin

said the belief that there was a face and evidence of ancient civilisations in Cydonia was nonsense.

He said the Global Surveyor would settle the debate next year when it took high resolution pictures of the area, 30 times sharper than those taken by the Viking probe's camera.

Dr Malin said he thought Cydonia's features were formed by the same sort of

weather erosion that carved unusual features into Earth's deserts.

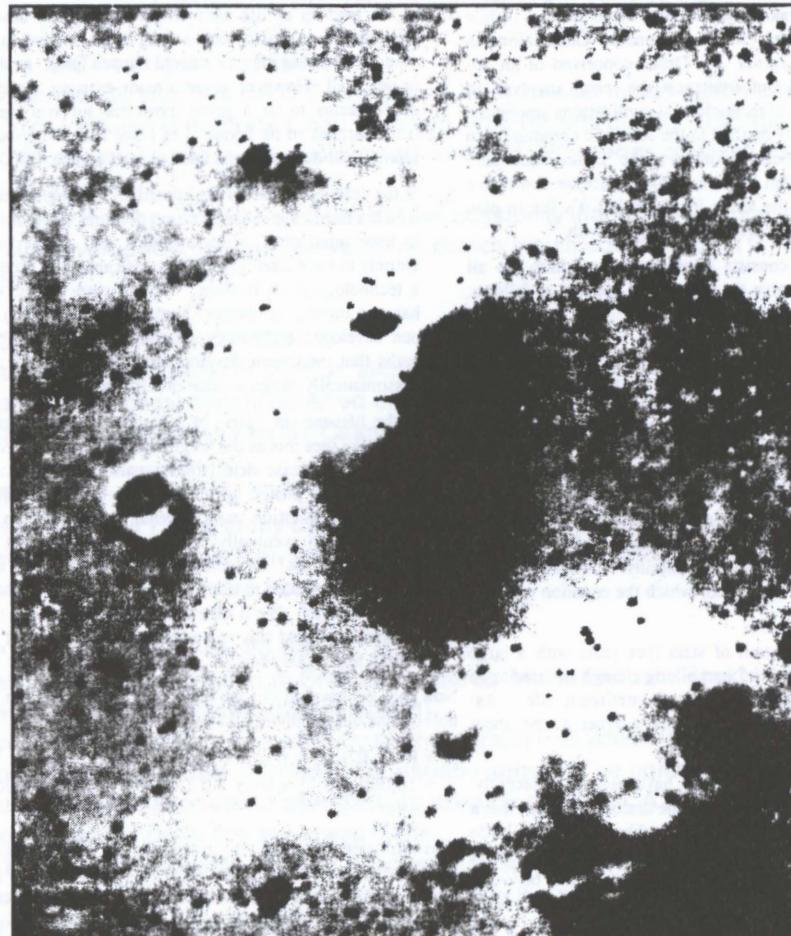
When Surveyor went into orbit around Mars last November, 10 protesters stood outside the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena demanding NASA take new images of Cydonia.

Project manager Glenn Cunningham said the agency would post results

on the Internet next year when the pictures were transmitted to Earth.

However, Dr Van Flandern predicted the images would support his theory that the face was built by an extra-terrestrial civilisation.

"I suggest that in view of these test results, we prepare ourselves for a cultural shock certainly unrivalled in recent times," he said.



Space portrait:
The mysterious
face of Mars.

THE DRAKE EQUATION

By Bob Thrift

Is it possible to estimate the number of technological civilizations that might exist in our galaxy? According to radio astronomer Frank Drake, there is a way to do it. While working at the National Radio Astronomy Observatory in Green Bank, West Virginia, Dr. Drake conceived of an approach to define and put limits on the terms involved in estimating the number of technological civilizations among the stars. He presented this method to the scientific community in 1961, and it has since become known as the "Drake Equation". There is no exact solution to this equation, since we don't have accurate numbers for the terms involved; but it's fun to play with the equation and see what one comes up with.

The Drake Equation consists of seven terms which are all multiplied together to give the answer. It appears as follows: each of the terms is explained below.

$$N = R^* \times f_p \times n_e \times f_l \times f_i \times f_c \times L$$

Here are the meanings of the terms. We'll put in our own estimates for them along the way.

N is the number of civilizations in the Milky Way Galaxy whose radio emissions are detectable. Since Drake is a radio astronomer, he was particularly interested in searching for extraterrestrial life with his radio telescope. We can assume that it means the number of civilizations which have a technological capability "somewhere" near our own. N is the answer for which the equation is trying to solve.

R* is the rate of formation of stars (per year) with a large enough "habitable zone" and a long enough lifetime to be suitable for the development of intelligent life. Astronomers currently estimate this number to be about 10,000 in our Milky Way galaxy.

f_p is the fraction of stars which have planets. Recently, astronomers have for the first time discovered proof that a number of stars in our visible neighborhood actually do have planets. These findings suggest that the number of planet-bearing stars is higher than was originally believed. Perhaps estimates of 10% to 20% would not be far out of line. Let's say 15%, so **f_p** would be expressed as 0.15.

n_e is the number of "earths", or earth-like planets per planetary system. All stars have a "habitable zone" at some distance out from the star, where a planet would be able to maintain a temperature that would allow liquid water to exist. A planet within this habitable zone could have the basic conditions for life (as we know it). In our own system, the number is 1. Let's assume that this could occur in 5% of planetary systems, so we will express **n_e** as 0.05.

f_l is the fraction of earth-like planets where life actually develops. This term is a big question mark. Given the

correct conditions, is the emergence of life inevitable, or is it a very rare phenomenon? Some people believe that life could be "seeded" on suitable planets by outside agencies. However, let's take a middle ground and say that the chances of life arising are 1 in 10, giving **f_l** = 0.1.

f_i is the fraction of life sites where intelligence develops. Intelligence on Earth took a long time to develop. On other life-bearing planets it could happen faster, or slower, or not at all. However, given already-existing life, intelligence seems to be a pretty powerful survival weapon, which argues in its favor. Let's say half of life-bearing planets will develop some form of intelligence, so **f_i** = 0.5.

f_c is the fraction of worlds inhabited by intelligent life, on which a technological civilization develops. It's one thing to have intelligent life on a planet, and another matter entirely to have intelligent life that is capable of producing a technological civilization. On our own planet, which has two intelligent species (humans and cetaceans), only one developed technology. Given the large number of paths that intelligent development could take, we might pessimistically assign a value of 0.05, or 5% to **f_c**.

L is the lifetime (in years) of a technological civilization. Dr. Drake sees this as the length of time that such civilizations could release detectable signals into space, where they could be picked up by his radio telescope. This is another big question mark. What is the tendency of a civilization to eventually destroy itself, or die out from some other cause? Or would it develop to the point where it no longer needed to use the kind of technology that we could relate to? We'll take a plunge here and say that a civilization would stay somewhere near our level of technology for 10,000 years.

Now that we have all our terms for the Drake Equation, let's pull out the old calculator and put them together:

$$N = R^* \times f_p \times n_e \times f_l \times f_i \times f_c \times L$$

$$= 10,000 \times 0.15 \times 0.05 \times 0.1 \times 0.5 \times 0.05 \times 10,000$$

$$= 1875$$

This estimates that there are, on the average, 1875 technological civilizations existing in our Milky Way Galaxy at any given time — one of which is our own. Of course, these numbers are pure guesswork. Try supplying your own estimates for the various factors, and see what you get! Carl Sagan, in his book "Cosmos", played with the Drake Equation and came up with the much more pessimistic value of 10. Perhaps not surprisingly, Dr. Frank Drake is now President of the SETI Institute, which has several ongoing projects, despite current lack of congressional funding, to try to detect evidence of life among the stars.

SETI stands for "Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence". Those with internet access can visit SETI's web site at the address:
<http://www.seti-inst.edu>

THE EARLY YEARS

(A selection of reports from "The Australian Flying Saucer Magazine" published by the Australian Flying Saucer Bureau in the early 1950's)

Washington, D.C. - August 11, 1953

An Air Force release said that the U.S. Air Force's flying saucer investigation branch at Dayton, Ohio, (Project Blue Book), had received 1700 reports during 1952 and that it had explained 86 per cent of them. This year it had received 270 reports of which it had explained 90 per cent.

The report said that the Project had ruled out the possibility that either the Soviet Union or the U.S. had developed a strange, secret flying device which could account for the flying saucer reports.

English Channel - October 9, 1953

The Captain and First Officer of a B.E.A. aircraft en route to France watched for over thirty minutes a large, elliptical, highly polished metallic-like craft flying at a height of approximately 20,000 feet across the Channel. The sky was perfectly clear at the time.

Washington, D.C. - March 25, 1954

The United States Air Force today denied that it has "hunks" of flying saucers, soon after a Pan American World Airways flier, William B. Nash, announced his conviction that the Air Force "had collected hardware from outer space".

Brisbane, Queensland - May 20, 1954

Flying saucers were reported from Brisbane suburbs, Murwillumbah, Rockhampton, Bundaberg, Gin Gin and Bauple, (Queensland).

One 18 year old man tried unsuccessfully to photograph one which looked like an electric light bulb high in the sky over Toowong, a Brisbane suburb. The light was visible for three or four minutes, then it disappeared after flashing towards the south. A newspaper photographer developed Grahame Ball's film but it was blank.

Another 18 year old Toowong resident, Godfrey Hall said that he had seen a "brightly lit up circular object" travelling southwards at approximately the same time. He saw it for only half a minute and estimated its height as about 14,000 feet.

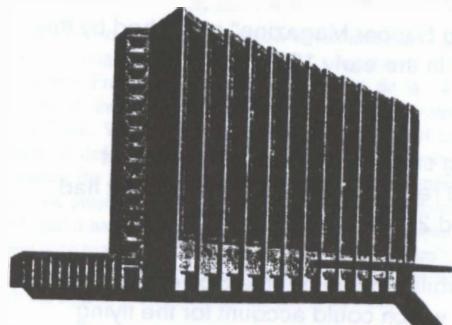
Vienna, Austria - August 26, 1954

People in Vienna and Graz (65 miles south of Vienna) deluged police stations and newspaper offices with reports of a whirling object with a narrow fiery tail shooting through the sky at dawn. The object, a silver disc, could not, the observers agreed, possibly be a weather balloon or an ordinary type of aircraft.

Almost simultaneously Italian residents at Pesaro on the Adriatic coast telephoned the press and police that they had seen a "red ball with a bluish tail" about half a mile up shooting from the direction of Austria. A cyclist was so scared upon sighting the object that he threw himself from his machine into the safety of a ditch.

These archives were made available to VUFORS by Mr Murray Bott of New Zealand.

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Puerto Rico: The Mystery Continues

by Scott Corrales
Bradford, PA

Puerto Rico, the "Shining Star of the Caribbean" as the ad agencies put it, became a U.S. possession in 1898 as a result of the Spanish-American War. The emerging superpower had just extended its borders to the China Sea (with the acquisition of the Philippines) and to the Caribbean (with Cuba and Puerto Rico). As early as 1890, military planners had realized that Puerto Rico represented an ideal location to establish naval bases. The hapless island was later run as a virtual garrison for decades until it became a self-ruling "commonwealth" under the U.S. flag – not quite a state, yet not quite a sovereign nation.

The island holds an even greater attraction for beings from other worlds or dimensions: ever since the alleged UFO crash in El Yunque Rainforest in 1987, the island has been in the grip of what is quickly becoming the longest UFO "flap" in the phenomenon's history.

On November 27, 1994, a UFO described as having a triangular shape crossed the heavens at 5:00 p.m. witnessed by Aracelis Valentin, a resident of Mayaguez's Jardines Housing, who was "astonished" by the sight.

Mrs. Valentin explained that the UFO, which was "shiny and metallic," moved south from a northwesterly direction. "I was there with my 2-year old son, when I saw an object resembling a stingray," Aracelis averred during an interview with a journalist. She pointed out that the unknown vehicle was very large and clearly visible in the clear skies. As in other UFO cases, the craft allegedly sighted by Mrs. Valentin made no sound whatsoever. She insisted that it could not have been an airplane, helicopter, or balloon, since the object in question was incredibly bright and moved at a breathtaking rate of speed. "The phenomenon frightened me considerably," she told reporters from a local newspaper.

The Mayaguez resident was by no means the only one to report UFOs: unknown to her, an entire neighborhood had sighted a triangular UFO a week earlier in the town of Anasco, located to the north of Mayaguez. According to one of the residents of Anasco's Dagney suburb, the triangle "...crossed the skies silently, leaving a trail of light similar to a fluorescent lamp," as it crossed the evening skies on November 23, 1994.

One resident claimed to have seen the triangular UFO vanish rapidly, heading southward from the north. The object itself gave off a constant light and flew at a low altitude, which enabled the witness and three relatives to see it clearly. "At first I thought I was seeing white pigeons flying in formation, but I later realized it was something none of us had seen before," said the witness, a government employee, who insisted on anonymity when interviewed by reporter Jose Victor Jimenez. "I don't want my sanity questioned, but my immediate family and other neighbors saw the very same thing."

The Amaury Rivera Debacle

1994 would also witness one of the most distressing situations to ever afflict ufology in Puerto Rico, and whose repercussions that were felt as far away as Spain: the raging, fratricidal debate concerning the reality of falsehood of the photographs taken by alleged abductee Amaury Rivera.

For those who have not followed the case, Amaury Rivera was allegedly abducted by a UFO in 1988, near the town of Cabo Rojo. He was able to take a sequence of impressive photographs showing a UFO being harried by F-14 interceptors. Six years and dozens of UFO conferences later, the matter remains as confusing as it was at the beginning, but with a notable difference: a group of "hoax busters" has apparently set out to prove that Amaury's photos are clever forgeries. Their analysis received considerable attention in UFO related publications in both the U.S. and abroad.

Spanish journalist Magdalena del Amo gallantly rose to the defense of Amaury Rivera and those who supported his claims. In a blistering article for *Espacio y Tiempo*, she uncovered a conspiracy that could (allegedly, of course) be bankrolled by a major "scientific" UFO organization in the U.S.

Del Amos minces no words: MUFON, like NICAP, its predecessor, may have been infiltrated by interests that seek to discredit cases that are "too near the knuckle." She suggests that certain UFO reports emerging from Puerto Rico are a concern to the ufological "establishment", which seeks to render them harmless by discrediting them.

Amaury Rivera's photographs had been validated by independent photo analysts from the U.S., Germany, and Japan. They agreed that no trickery could be detected in the photos. The article for *Espacio y Tiempo* alleges that Amaury's downfall came about when he denied that Wilson Sosa – allegedly a witness to the event in which a UFO swallowed a Navy jet – was his business manager.

Sosa, seeing a large money-making scheme unravel before his eyes, then allegedly vowed to "destroy" Amaury in anything concerning the photos. Mr. Sosa has allegedly accused Amaury of selling drugs from his small hot dog stand and of being a sexual pervert, among other things.

Magdalena del Amo also mentions a plan gone awry. In an attempt to force Amaury to part with the photographs of the Cabo Rojo UFO, Wilson Sosa allegedly hired five young local fishermen. He allegedly promised them the sum of \$5000 and instant fame if they claimed that the photographs were theirs and that Amaury Rivera had stolen them. Two of the youths backed off and confessed, blowing the lid on the situation.

Whatever the situation involving Amaury Rivera, Wilson Sosa, and the other players dose not affect in the least the validity of the numerous cases reported in Laguna Cartagena and Cabo Rojo, a region profiled in the Summer 1994 special edition of Fox-TV's Encounters. The incidents surrounding the inordinate amount of UFO activity in the vicinity of Laguna Cartagena – an island lagoon less than ten miles away from the village of Boqueron, in the southwestern corner of the island – have attracted much attention in the past two years. Unidentified objects of assorted geometrical configurations have been seen hovering over the water and plunging into it outright, amid government denials and claims that the lights are merely the reflected lights of nearby communities.

Military Occupation and UFOs

The UFO situation in Puerto Rico appears to go hand in hand with unusual maneuvers of U.S. military aircraft, vessels, and troops. Whatever the reason for the activity, it is a fact that the military has been somewhat lax about "playing its cards close to its vest," perhaps out of overconfidence in its unique position in the undefined political condition of Puerto Rico. Following some religious apparitions in the area known as Montana Santa in 1994, two local residents were surprised to see an undetermined number of persons in protective clothing conducting what appeared to be scientific testing of some sort at 2:00 a.m. and who spoke English-accented Spanish. The witnesses were ordered of the premises and sent over to some soldiers dressed in cammo BDUs. One of them, seemingly in command, said they were "with NASA" and were examining the area.

Investigator and author Jorge Martin, the only ufologist deserving of the name on the island, interviewed Civil Defense director Freddie Cruz, who made an interesting observation about an event that took place in the Olivares section of the town of Lajas. According to Cruz, there was unusual activity surrounding the controversial "aerostat" installation – whose avowed purpose was that of curtailing low-flying drug smuggling planes. A white truck with the letters "NASA" written in black on its side entered the installation, escorted by several armored personnel carriers. As Cruz wisely observed: "But if the aerostat is there for drug interdiction, what is a truck with [alleged] NASA personnel doing there?"

The Mystery Continues

The Navy took great interest in the events that have taken place over the years in the waters off of Cabo Rojo, the island's southwestern tip. Local fishermen were not at all surprised by this development. Over the course of many evenings, they would see the nocturnal lights going about their appointed rounds – shifting color from white to red and blue, spreading open like colorful fans which would fill the night sky. On other occasions the lights would hover menacingly over their fishing boats, bathing them with beams of light. Fighters from the carrier group stationed off shore would later be involved, to their detriment, in one of the most intriguing UFO cases to be reported on the island – the 1988 event in which a giant triangular saucer allegedly "sucked in" two F-14 Tomcats and their crews.

This increased military vigilance, however, has not contributed to a significant reduction in the number of sightings or close encounters. There exists the widespread belief that efforts are being made to staunch the flow of illegal drugs into the island are, in fact, closely related to monitoring the strange objects penetrating Puerto Rican airspace.

In May 1995, the U.S. Navy admitted that a multi-megaton nuclear weapon had been lost "during exercises" thirty years earlier in the shallow waters off Vieques. They also admitted that Playa Flamingo, a beach on the island of Culebra, to the east of Puerto Rico and north of Vieques, had to be shut down for clean up operations. It seems a large amount of unexploded ordnance lay on the beach, which had since become a major attraction for weekenders.

The

possibility of non-nuclear ordnance – equally lethal – being turned up by beachcombers sent shivers throughout Puerto Rico. But when the authorities casually announced that the Lajas Valley, one of the most productive regions on the island, was going to be turned into a colossal radar antenna "farm" similar to the one being built on Vieques, some wondered if their grip on reality was slipping.

The Lajas Valley radar complex, if constructed, will dominate the UFO-prone region of Puerto Rico that included Laguna Cartagena and its alleged underwater base. It has been speculated that the existing radar installation at Vieques, and its projected Lajas twin, are part of a defense or early warning network against unidentified flying objects.

Putting all speculation aside for the moment, what remains in black-and-white is impressive enough: the installation would occupy a 40 acre area, fenced in with wood and barbed wire. The perimeter includes 13 radar reception shacks spaced along the terrain, and four rights-of-way leading to adjacent terrain. The ground within the enclosure itself will be occupied by a reflective surface which will presumably function as a reflector dish to a series of seven hundred forty-four antennae aligned in two individual rows right in front of the reflecting surface.

The Navy press release stated that the Lajas facility is merely an over-the-horizon array (ROTHR), curiously adding the detail that it is "similar to the Very Large Array in the New Mexico desert."

The Lajas array would share the steerability of the VLA, but would it also peer into space? The press release concluded by saying the Lajas array would be used as part of the drug war, without making any mention of the fact that the installation far surpasses any other one used for a similar purpose in North or South America. Nor was there any discussion of the health risks posed by the system. The Navy tried to assuage the fears of the citizenry by saying that the Lajas Valley and Vieques did not constitute two radars, but merely two sides of a "triad," in which the proposed Lajas installation would play the role of receiver while Vieques functioned as the transmitter. The third leg of the triad, the control center, would be over a thousand miles away in Norfolk, Virginia.

An Ever Present Mystery

At the foot of Puerto Rico's enigmatic El Yunque Rainforest lies Luquillo Beach, a fenced, recreational facility that is one of the finest strips of sand on the island. Not far away, along Route 3, is a service road containing two dozen rough-hewn seafood restaurants (locally known as "los quioscos") which attract a large number of local and international customers. If stories were true, the seafood restaurants' reputations have even reached visitors from the cosmos.

Angel Cruz, the owner of restaurant No. 4, "La Mas Sufrida" ("The Longest-Suffering"), looked like a man who would ordinarily not move away from his cash register if someone told him that UFOs were cavorting outside. Yet that was exactly what he did toward the end of November 1966, when he and dozens of his customers observed a celestial

display over the waters of the beach which lapped the rear of his establishment. Mr. Cruz had been thoroughly affected by the experience – something that becomes more evident as we stood outside his restaurant conversing.

"There was something supernatural about the whole experience," Cruz reminisced. "For an object to have lit up the entire coastline the way it did on that evening, it had to be otherworldly. It was too big, too big."

Cruz was able to see the UFO anchored in mid-air, hovering over the water and bathing the area (which has terrible nocturnal lighting) in its actinic light. His patrons literally put their forks down to see what was going on. Certain that the object was neither a flare, nor a meteorite, Cruz added: "I was able to distinguish the sheer size and brilliance of the object. Never in my life had I experienced such a thing... I panicked. I was scared because it was noiseless and so bright. Eventually, it disappeared into the water, and everything went back to normal. The sea was normal, the darkness returned..."

The businessman later added that he returned into his establishment and occasionally stepped outside to see if there would be a replay of the celestial phenomenon, but there wasn't. Cruz had friends and relatives in the nearby Colinas del Yunque development who had seen UFOs and strange creatures, but had never thought he'd see anything himself.

Conclusions Page 29

What Next
Melbourne 1947
by G. Simpson

rs; then cool and cloudy (see page 16).

Argus **SPORT REPORT**

1846 MELBOURNE, MONDAY, JULY 7, 1947 24 PAGES PRICE 2d OF NEW SOUTH WALES

MONTY IN HIS YOUTH 'Flying Saucers' to be hunted down

Monty's welcome home "young Bernard." They are (from left): Mrs W. A. Brain (his governess), Mrs X. Dodson (riding teacher), Miss L. Solly (nurse), Mrs C. McKendrick (his personal nurse), Mrs A. Connolly (cook) and Mrs. M. Boys (parlour maid).

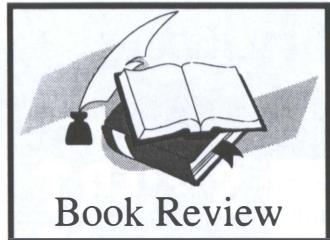


A few years ago, before Roswell was a "household" word as it is today, I decided that it might be a good idea to see if the story had been covered by our local papers. The only TV item on Roswell we'd ever had the fortune to see in Australia at the time was the 20 or so minutes presented by "Unsolved Mysteries". There had only been one book published on the subject, "The Roswell Incident", by Charles Berlitz, in 1980.

One thing mentioned in the 'Unsolved Mysteries' program was that once the 509th released the press report, their phones went crazy with calls from all over the world.

The State Library of Victoria keeps newspapers and periodicals on microfilm, so off I went in search of the papers my grandparents would have read in 1947. I began with the Melbourne Age, and looked at the editions a few days before, during and after the event. I didn't find any reference to Roswell or even New Mexico, but to my astonishment there were many reports on "Flying Saucers" and "Flying Discs", including stories about people in Sydney and Copenhagen watching "Flying Saucers" travelling overhead at high speed.

Once I had scanned through the two months as I had planned I was left with the impression



On Pilots and UFOs

By Dr. Willy Smith

Foreword by Richard F. Haines

Review by P. Myers

On November 23, 1953 an F89C of the 433rd Fighter Interceptor Squadron, Kinross AFB, Michigan was directed by radar controllers to descend from 25,000 feet to 7000 feet to intercept an unknown target over Lake Superior. As the two blips merged on the radar screen both radio and radar contact were lost with the aircraft and it was never seen again despite extensive searches.

The two interesting aspects of this case are firstly, that the whole procedure of interception was initiated by the appearance of an unknown intruder on USAF radar. Secondly that although the F89C and intruder were obviously in close proximity prior to being lost on radar, the USAF has never released the extracts of the taped conversations between pilot and controllers.

This incident and several others described in Dr. Willy Smith's book provides a representative sample from the UNICAT PROJECT of interaction over the years between pilots and UFOs. Most of the related encounters are pilot witness accounts. For me the book would have been just as interesting if it dealt with the interaction of ferryboat captains or school teachers and UFOs. However, I guess the point that most make is that pilots are more likely to observe aerial phenomena and that because they are more experienced with airborne visual observations than most they tend to be credible witnesses.

The UNICAT PROJECT was started in 1984 by J. Allen Hynek and Willy Smith. The aim of the project is to accurately document, using specific criteria and tight parameters, high quality UFO reports. Smith believes that by being selective in his acceptance of material for cataloguing, his results will be more acceptable to the scientific community.

There are currently about 825 cases entered on the database with a second database used to store material that is not of sufficient standard. This secondary material can be upgraded with the introduction of new evidence/information.

Those people who met Dr Smith during his Australian visit, perhaps at the talk he provided for VUFORS members, will realize he is a man with little tolerance for time wasters and debunkers. This is reflected in his writing style, which is at times a little abrasive. However the point must be made that too much light entertainment for television and print is derived from the UFO phenomena and Dr Smith's book provides us with the opportunity to reorientate and escape the frivolous.

To purchase this book, write to :-

THE UNICAT PROJECT
8011 SW 189th Street
Miami, FL 33157
USA

Price: US Dollars \$12.95



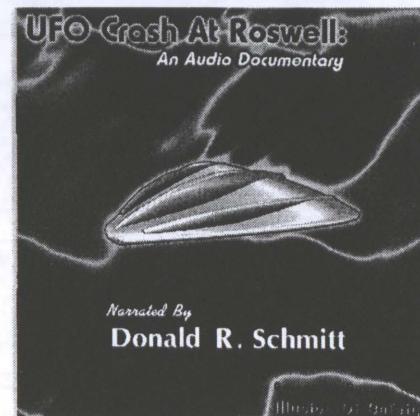
UFO Crash At Roswell: An Audio Documentary

Narrated by Donald R. Schmitt

Review by G. Simpson

recovery of the "Flying Disc", as well as the stories of twenty seven different witnesses to the event and related happenings.

The price of the CD is U.S.\$ 16.00 including postage. When I ordered the CD the Aussy dollar hadn't lost ground, so all up the CD cost me around \$29.00. In other words, the normal price for a new CD.



I'm glad I did, as this CD contains historical information and witness testimonies regarding this most important of cases, and now with people such as Kent Jeffrey trying to attack the Roswell story, it's the actual words spoken by the people involved such as you hear on this CD that show Jeffrey's total foolishness for what it really is.

These people can't possibly all be deluded, or mistaken as he would suggest. They were there, he was not. This information is valuable as a research source document for those people open-minded enough to listen to the people who were courageous enough to speak about what they experienced. It makes a refreshing change to hear the actual voices of the key people who had their entire philosophy of life radically altered by this single event in modern American history.

This CD includes the original News broadcasts from July 1947 where the announcement is made regarding the Roswell Army Air Force

My only criticism of the CD is that I think it would have been better if Schmitt had hired a professional voice for the narration, and if he had done a course on sound recording at film school. The quality of the interviews varies considerably. Even though, this CD produces around one hour of fascinating listening.

The address for ordering the CD is..

The Baraka Foundation
P.O. Box 12933
Berkeley CA 94712.

Information is available via the Internet at:
<http://www.baraka.net/roswell.html>

Included in the cost of Aust.\$29.00 was a \$6.00 charge by the post office for an American "Western Union" postal money order. I thought a well known American Institution such as Western Union made sense so that the cd would be sent without delay.

What Next

that these "saucers" had circum-navigated the globe, passing over Sydney on the night of Monday the 7th. The "saucers" were obviously plainly visible, rapid and reported by multitudes of people from the United States and Canada to Australia and Scandinavia.

It would be a great idea to surf the web to access newspaper archives in many countries to see if a clearer picture develops. (ie. if they have these relevant archives available on the net).

In the Herald on Monday June 30th 1947, there was, on the front page, the headline

"SUPERSONIC FLYING SAUCERS"

IN U.S. The article then refers to the Arnold sighting without mentioning his name, and then goes on to say "experts dismissed the report with statements that no known aircraft could go that fast and that no guided missile tests were being conducted in that part of the west.....All agreed that the objects were round, like a saucer, were travelling South at high speed with little or no noise, and were of such brightness that reflections from the sun were "almost blinding".

Of course, there was no mention of Kenneth Arnold's military experience as a pilot and his ability to accurately ascertain the speed he mentioned. He said at the time words to the effect that he found it hard to believe but he had to because he saw it himself.

The front page headline of "The Argus" for JULY 7TH 1947 read:

'FLYING SAUCERS' TO BE HUNTED DOWN. Mystery has U.S. baffled. New York (AAP)

The next 'flying saucer' seen in the United States will be chased by fighter planes.....

The front page of 'The Sun' for July 7th ran a leading story which read, "Persistent "Disc Saucery" Reports Leave Americans Guessing. This article reports that the first photographs of the objects had appeared in U.S. papers, but they weren't reproduced here.

Then on Tuesday July 8th, in the Sun, on page two, there is an article reporting how a U.S. National Guard pilot was sent in pursuit of a "saucer" but wasn't able to find the object. (That would probably be like trying to intercept a formula 1 racing car while riding a bicycle).

And on Tuesday the 8th, 'The Age' added, on it's front page, that the Army Air Force was going to use it's new 'JET' planes to attempt to pursue the next 'Saucer'.

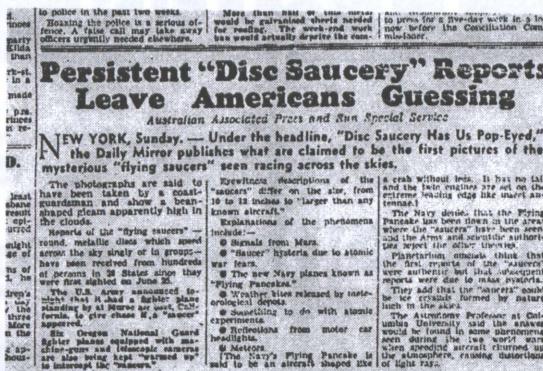
Of course the boffins couldn't keep away from such intriguing stories. A Sydney Professor proved to his satisfaction that people were staring into the skies for long periods, which made their eyes play tricks on them. See page two, The Age, Tuesday July the 8th.



What Next

Of course he never attempted to explain why the Armed Forces of the United States would keep their planes "warmed up" and at the ready in order to pursue optical anomalies, which overnight afflicted people around the globe.

To conclude, it would be an absolutely fascinating project to research newspaper archives worldwide in order to piece together



balloon. In other words, all that I could locate in Melbourne was a minor reference to the cover story we all know about.

The dumbfounded witness was attempting to follow the slow moving UFO in his car along the highway when he was swiftly overtaken by a black 4x4 pickup truck which pulled him over. Tall men in black uniforms emerged from the vehicle and walked up to the nervous witness, ordering him to kill the engine and remain by the roadside to avoid "getting into trouble." According to the witness, one of the men said, "Just let us get on with what we are doing."

The witness asked why, then realized that the unidentified man had spoken in the plural regarding the UFO. It suddenly dawned on him that these men were linked with the vehicle.

Who were these strange individuals whose black uniforms betrayed no insignia whatsoever? The fact remains that a cow was later found mutilated along Route 30, completely butchered and with its bones shattered, as if the helpless bovine had been dropped from a great height.

the activities of these visitors at the time that one of them either crashed or was shot down in 1947. There was one very minor reference to a story of a 'saucer' having been recovered by the U.S. Military, but it was attributed to the ubiquitous weather

LECTURE

Pilot Sightings of UFO Phenomena

Dr. Richard F. Haines

NASA Research Scientist since 1967

Royal Victorian Aero Club, Moorabbin Airport
Tuesday, 17th of March, 1998 at 8pm



Dr. Haines has recorded over 3,000 UFO reports, many of which he has personally investigated. He has also investigated numerous aviation accidents and incidents for the U.S. Federal Aviation Authority and attorneys.

He has also written three books on UFO topics and over 50 scientific and technical articles as well as 20 serious articles on unidentified aerial phenomena.

Dr. Haines' 1987 book, "Melbourne Episode - Case Study of a Missing Pilot", details the 1978 disappearance of **Frederick Valentich** over Bass Strait during a flight from Moorabbin to King Island.

Admission

VUFORS members
& RVAC members \$20
Others \$25

Seats are limited

Prepaid tickets will receive priority seating.
Send your ticket requests to:
Victorian UFO Research Society Inc.
P.O. Box 43, Moorabbin VIC. 3189

SOCIETY NEWS

The VUFORS Sightings Hotline is NOW AVAILABLE.

 **(03) 9506 7080** 

Please report your sightings to this number.

Note: This is NOT a 0055 or 1900 service. Your call is charged standard rates.

*** * * * ITEMS FOR SALE * * * ***

AT THE MARCH 2nd DISCUSSION EVENING

- * "UFOs...THE REAL STORY" - Stanton Friedman's comprehensive CD-ROM. Excellent value at \$ 35.00. Normal retail price \$ 49.00. This item is now available by mail within Australia for \$ 38.00.
- * VUFORS LAPEL BADGES - only \$ 5.00 each.
- * VUFORS PENS - only \$ 1.00 each.
- * "THE AUSTRALIAN UFO BULLETIN" - some back issues available at \$ 5.00 each.

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For those who wish to attend Dr. Richard Haines Lecture at the Royal Victorian Aero Club, the Melways Map 87 G4 gives the directions. Suggestions:- Coming from the City, North or East of it, Nepean Highway, Warrigal Road and Weatall road which - after a small dog-leg, becomes Boundary Road; and all of these main roads cross Centre Dandenong Road, which leads to the Airport. There is a large car park.

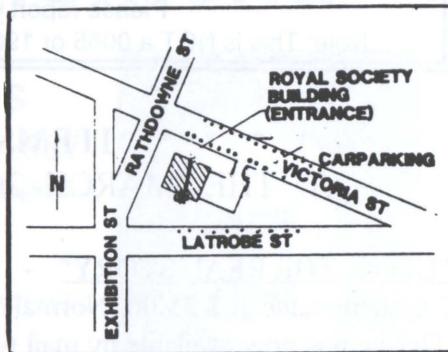


MEMBER
International Committee for U.F.O. Research
P.O. Box 43, Moorabbin, Vic. 3189, Australia

DISCUSSION NIGHT

For Your Diary

MARCH	2 nd , 1998	DISCUSSION
JUNE	1 st , 1998	"
SEPTEMBER	7 th , 1998	"
DECEMBER	7 th , 1998	A.G.M
TIME	8.00 p.m.	
WHERE	The Royal Society of Victoria Victoria Street, Melbourne (SEE MAP)	
ENTRY FEE	NON-MEMBER	\$5.00
	ASSOCIATE MEMBER	\$2.00
	FULL MEMBER	FREE ENTRY



SUBSCRIPTION RATES

V.U.F.O.R.S.

FULL MEMBERSHIP:	\$20	- Magazine - Free Meeting Entry - Free Supper
ASSOCIATE MEMBER:	\$15	- Magazine Only
OVERSEAS:	\$US20	- Magazine Only
NON MEMBER:	\$5	- Meeting Entry Only

SOCIETY HISTORY

1957

At this point perhaps it may be opportune to present a brief history of the Victorian U.F.O. Research Society.

The earliest U.F.O. group to form in Australia was the "Australian Flying Saucer Bureau" under the direction of Edgar Jarrold and Andrew Tomas, in the early 1950s. At the same time, Fred Stone inaugurated the "Australian Flying Saucer Research Society" in Adelaide. After approximately two years the Bureau closed down and was regarded as a branch of the "Australian Flying Saucer Research Society" under Andrew Tomas. This shortly broke from Adelaide and became the "Australian U.F.O. Investigation Centre" with Dr. Clifford at its head until 1958, when the Presidency passed to Dr. Lindtner.

The "Australian Flying Saucer Research Society (Victorian Branch)" was formed on the 17th February, 1957 as a branch of the "Australian Flying Saucer Research Society" and later that year was re-organised as the "Victorian Flying Saucer Research Society" with Mr. Peter E. Norris L.L.B. as President. In 1968 the name was again altered – this time to the "Victorian U.F.O. Research Society".

During this time, the Society has published various papers and is probably best known for its publication Australian Flying Saucer Review, curtailed in 1972 due to high costs and subsequently superseded by the Australian U.F.O. Bulletin and at one stage sponsored and produced a quarter-hour program on a Melbourne radio station under the heading of "The Truth Behind Flying Saucers".

In 1978, following the resignation of Mr. Peter Norris the current executive, Mrs. Judith Magee, Messrs. Paul Norman and Clive Yates, was placed in control, ensuring the continuing prosperity of V.U.F.O.R.S. The Society has held a dispassionate attitude on U.F.O.s, claiming it is a scientific problem deserving closer attention. It has also met regularly in general meetings and discussion nights and maintained the largest U.F.O. library in the southern hemisphere. Unfortunately, the loss of books, probably due to the high cost of postage has forced V.U.F.O.R.S. to discontinue this service to members.

Membership of this Society – which maintains the largest membership of any U.F.O. organisation in the Southern Hemisphere – is open to all who are genuinely interested in the subject.

THE AUSTRALIAN U.F.O. BULLETIN

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